

Research Guide 203
Understanding Vital Statistics Indexes

Last Updated:
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Bride and groom, Torges wedding
circa 1945
C 5-1-0-146-2
Gordon Powley photos

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In this guide

This guide has information on how to understand the alphabetical indexes to vital statistics (birth, marriage and death records).

You will find these indexes and the corresponding birth, marriage and death registrations on microfilm in our reading room. Libraries that offer interloan services may also borrow the microfilm for you. For microfilm lists and instructions on how to find registrations on microfilm, [click here to view our Ontario Vital statistics webpage](#). This webpage is also accessible from our website (ontario.ca/archives), by clicking on “Tracing Your Family History”.

Please note: Microfilm is no longer being produced for new records entering the archives. Registrations for births after 1918, marriages after 1932 and deaths after 1942 are available online through ancestry. [Click here to access the ancestry.ca website](#). Ancestry can be accessed without a membership at the Archives of Ontario and many public libraries at [ancestryinstitution.ca](#). You do not need to use the indexes to search registrations online. For information on digitized registrations and where to find them, [click here to view our Ontario Vital statistics webpage](#).

What is in the indexes?

The alphabetical indexes were created starting in the late 1950’s. They replaced previous handwritten original indexes. The format of the indexes varied over time, but the fields remained the same.

Below is an explanation of the main fields in the indexes and whether they are required to find the registration.

Note*: The number column corresponds with the numbers on the [examples of the index pages](#) at the end of this guide.

Number*	Field Title	Explanation	Required to find registration?
1	<i>NAME</i>	This is the name of the person on the registration, copied from the original registration. Only the name of the child (for a birth), the bride and groom, and the deceased were indexed. Women remarrying were indexed under their previous <i>married</i> surname. In addition, some marriage indexes included the maiden name of women who were re-marrying.	Yes , you need this information to find the registration.
2	<i>PLACE OF EVENT</i>	This is the town or township where the event was registered. For rural births and deaths, this may differ from where the actual event took place.	You may need this information to find the registration
3	<i>DATE OF EVENT</i>	The usual format is month, day and year. For example, 06 12 01 equals June 12 th 1901. Marriages for 1873-1881 were indexed with single digit for the months and O, N, and D for October, November and December.	You may need this information to find the registration
4	<i>REGISTRATION NUMBER</i>	This is the unique numbered given to each registration.	Yes , you need this information to find the registration.
5	<i>REGISTRATION YEAR</i>	This is the year when the birth, the marriage or the death was registered. It may be different from the date of event.	Yes , you need this information to find the registration.
6	<i>CONTROL NUMBER</i>	This number correspond to the type of registration (birth, marriage or death) and type of correction to the original registration (if any). It was likely included for data quality control.	No , you do not need this information to find the registration.
7	<i>CODE</i>	This is a list of the control numbers (see no. 6 above). This information appears on <u>some</u> index pages.	No , you do not need this information to find the registration.

Number*	Field Title	Explanation	Required to find registration?
8	C.O.	This code corresponds to the county, district or city where the event was registered. It was used for data control purposes.	No , you do not need this information to find the registration.

Contact us

Although unable to do your research for you, our reference archivists are waiting to assist you. You may telephone or write to them by mail or email or — best of all — visit the Archives of Ontario.

Telephone: 416-327-1600 Toll free (Ontario): 1-800-668-9933

Email: [Click here to email the Archives of Ontario](#). The e-mail address is reference@ontario.ca

Address: Archives of Ontario, 134 Ian Macdonald Blvd., Toronto, ON M7A 2C5

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This information is provided as a public service. Last update is shown at the beginning of this guide. Readers should where possible verify the information before acting on it.

Examples of index pages

Birth index page

VITAL STATISTICS INDEX											
PAGE	NAME	000012	SEX	PLACE OF EVENT CROSS INDEX	CO. C.I.	S.C.	DATE			REGISTRATION NO.	REG. YEAR
							MO.	DAY	YR.		
1	MARSHALL ALEXIA MARGAREY		F	M11 MITCHELL	44		12	30	90	123193691	1
2	MARSHALL ALLAN RUNDLE		M	M11 LONDON	35		05	10	90	190188027	7
3	MARSHALL ALONZO HARRY		M	M11 CHARLOTTEVILLE	38		10	08	90	102181190	1
4	MARSHALL ANNIE E		F	M11 WIDDIFIELD TWP	37		04	29	90	102072990	1
5	MARSHALL ANTHONY		M	M11 BLENHEIM	41		02	04	90	102513190	1
6	MARSHALL ANTHONY ROY		M	M11 ALBEMARLE TWP	4		08	20	90	100317690	1
7	MARSHALL ARTHUR HUNTER		M	M11 E GARAFRAXA	9		05	25	90	100615890	1
8	MARSHALL BEATRICE K		F	M11 KINGSTON	15		07	17	90	100941890	1
9	MARSHALL CARRIE MABEL		F	M11 USBORNE TWP	24		11	27	90	101405090	1
10	MARSHALL CHARLES H		M	M11 HAMILTON	67		05	09	90	103755590	1
11	MARSHALL CHARLES PERCY		M	M11 TINY	51		02	01	90	103032690	1
12	MARSHALL CHARLES F		M	M11 CAYUGA	19		08	16	90	101135790	1
13	MARSHALL DAVID H		M	M11 TORONTO	72		02	25	90	104044590	1
14	MARSHALL EDIA A		F	M11 OSKANA	40		08	05	90	102430490	1
15	MARSHALL ELIZABETH		F	M11 EAST TORONTO	70		05	19	90	103912190	1
16	MARSHALL ELLEN M		F	M11 HAMILTON	67		09	26	90	103792890	1
17	MARSHALL ELLIEN M		F	M11 VALKERTON	4		09	05	90	100308390	1
18	MARSHALL EMILY JANE		F	M11 HURON TWP	4		02	14	90	100352190	1
19	MARSHALL ERNEST WILLIAM		M	M11 LONDON	35		04	04	90	101914390	1
20	MARSHALL ETHEL MARGARET		F	M11 BARTON TWP	67		01	27	90	103666490	1
21	MARSHALL EUPHEMIA		F	M11 N DUMFRIES TWP	61		05	09	90	103401190	1
22	MARSHALL EVA CLARE		F	M11 BELLEVILLE	22		08	19	90	1050122149	1
23	MARSHALL FLORENCE LOUISE		F	M11 NORTHWOOD	27		07	07	90	1050106746	1
24	MARSHALL GEORGE FRANCIS		M	M11 PICKERING TWP	40		01	24	90	102359790	1
25	MARSHALL GEORGE PRINGLE		M	M11 OSNABRUCK	53		07	25	90	103243490	1
26	MARSHALL GERALD		M	M11 OTTAWA	6		01	16	90	100471690	1
27	MARSHALL GERTRUDE MAUD		F	M11 PERRY TWP	42		05	24	90	102123690	1
28	MARSHALL GWENDOLINE		F	M11 TORONTO	72		06	25	90	104199690	1
29	MARSHALL HAROLD		M	M11 KINGSTON	15		09	10	90	100953690	1
30	MARSHALL HELEN LILLIETT		F	M11 N TORONTO	70		12	18	90	1024418391	1
31	MARSHALL HELENA MAY		F	M11 WARWICK TWP	29		06	22	90	101618690	1
32	MARSHALL HENRY		M	M11 TORONTO	72		09	08	90	104339790	1
33	MARSHALL HESTHER		F	M11 WINDSOR	13		02	28	90	100722190	1
34	MARSHALL JAMES		M	M11 HAMILTON	67		06	20	90	103758990	1
35	MARSHALL JAMES		M	M11 WONCK TWP	36		12	10	90	102101490	1
36	MARSHALL JAMES EDWARD *		M	M11 GLOUCESTER	6		02	11	90	100399990	1
37	MARSHALL JOHN ALEXANDER		M	M11 ONONDAGA TWP	3		06	20	90	1050104646	1
38	MARSHALL JOHN FREDERICK		M	M11 WOODSTOCK	41		03	23	90	102541490	1
39	MARSHALL JOHN MCKAY		M	M11 LONDON	35		09	30	90	1090185130	1
40	MARSHALL JOHN ROY P		M	M11 HOUGHTON TWP	38		02	26	90	102178190	1
41	MARSHALL JOHN WESLEY		M	M11 CAVAN	11		06	03	90	102263690	1
42	MARSHALL K DOUGLASS		M	M11 SALT FLEET TWP	67		10	03	90	1024272191	1
43	MARSHALL LILIAN BERTHA		F	M11 S GRIMSBY	33		08	15	90	101840790	1
44	MARSHALL LILLIAN JANE C		F	M11 BRAMPTON	43		06	12	90	102563890	1
45	MARSHALL LILLIAN MAUD		F	M11 TORONTO	72		11	08	90	104380490	1
46	MARSHALL LILLIAN MAY		F	M11 WIDDIFIELD TWP	37		08	11	90	102075090	1
47	MARSHALL LILY EVELYN		F	M11 ORILLIA TWP	51		03	29	90	103126790	1
48	MARSHALL MAGGIE EVA		F	M11 OWEN SOUND	18		07	13	90	101092390	1
49	MARSHALL MAGGIE C		F	M11 TRAFALGAR	21		05	28	90	101159390	1
50	MARSHALL MANLY HEROLD		M	M11 RICHMOND TWP	32		09	02	90	102336691	1
51	MARSHALL MARGARET G		F	M11 ORO	51		05	17	90	103136790	1
52	MARSHALL MARY		F	M11 W FLAMBOROUGH T	67		05	24	90	103689290	1
53	MARSHALL MARY		F	M11 TORONTO	72		10	28	90	104387790	1
54	MARSHALL MIMIE LUCINDA		F	M11 ARTHUR TWP	65		10	30	90	103577490	1
55	MARSHALL OLIVER A		M	M11 S DUMFRIES TWP	3		04	26	90	100379390	1
56	MARSHALL PETER MELVIL		M	M11 N DUMFRIES TWP	61		04	24	90	103400590	1
57	MARSHALL RICHARD F		M	M11 E LUTHER	9		03	25	90	100619190	1
58	MARSHALL RICHARD EARL		M	M11 ESQUENING	21		08	05	90	101150890	1
59	MARSHALL ROBERT SAMUEL		M	M11 MEDONTE	51		07	16	90	103158190	1
60	MARSHALL RUSSELL STANLEY		M	M11 PUSLINCH	65		11	29	90	103553090	1

Marriage index page

VITAL STATISTICS INDEX									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SURNAME	GIVEN	NAMES	M.	DAY	YR.	PR.	NUM & SER.	PLACE OR CROSS REFERENCE	CTL
RAMSAY	33	JESSIE	8	28	73	05	204-841	ST CATHARI	74 E L1
RANDAL	35	HARRIET	0	15	73		007-793	PARKHILL	73 E L1
RANDALL	27	EDWIN	9	07	73		006-336	RALEIGH T	73 C C1
RANDALL	70	ELIZABETH	2	18	73		013-527	PINE OKCHA	73 E L1
RANDALL	15	GEORGE	7	10	73		003-409	KINGSTON	73 A C1
RANDALL	72	JAMES	0	07	73		014-296	TORONTO	73 A C1
RANDALL	70	PHEBE	7	15	73		013-372	PINE OKCHA	73 E L1
RANDALL	21	ROBERT	N	06	73		005-492	MILTON	73 A C1
RANDALL	40	WILLIAM	9	06	73		009-084	OSHAWA	73 A C1
RANDELL	32	ROSA	1	08	73		007-392	NAPANEE	73 E L1
RANDOLPH	15	WILLIAM	4	20	73		003-544	PORTLAND	73 A C1
RANEY	72	CHARLES	9	05	73		014-295	TORONTO	73 A C1
RANGER	46	CERILA	9	15	73		011-556	ST EUGENE	73 E L1
RANKIN	18	AGNES	0	23	73		005-238	JARVIS	73 E L1
RANKIN	44	ANNIE	4	23	73		010-031	N EASTHO T	73 E L1
RANKIN	04	ARCHIBALD	1	01	73		004-445	WALKERTON	73 A C1
RANKIN	11	CHARLOTTE	6	17	73		009-825	PT HOPE	73 E L1
RANKIN	60	COLIN	1	22	73		013-130	LINDSAY	73 C C1
RANKIN	27	FRANCES	9	22	73		006-482	CHATHAM	73 A C1
RANKIN	44	MARGARET	3	06	73		010-030	STRATFORD	73 E L1
RANKIN	51	THOMAS	6	03	73		010-780	PENETANGUI	73 A C1
RANKINS	39	EMILY	3	11	73		009-672	PERCY T	73 E L1
RANSEER	30	WILLIAM	6	23	73		006-832	BATHURST	73 A C1
RANSFORD	24	RICHARD	9	18	73		006-067	CLINTON	73 A C1
RANSOM	27	AMOS	8	13	73		006-374	BLLENHEIM	73 A C1
RANSOM	72	GEORGE	1	04	73		014-092	TORONTO	73 A C1
RANSON	35	THOMAS	6	18	73		007-783	PARKHILL	73 A C1
KAPELGIE	63	ELIZABETH	1	23	73		012-739	CHIPPAWA	73 E L1
KAPER	11	JOHN	6	30	73		009-481	LIFFORD	73 A C1
KAPER	44	MARY	5	06	73		010-215	AVONTON	73 E L1
KAPLEY	39	THOMAS	5	05	73		205-758	LONDON	73 A C1
RAPP	44	CATHARINA	N	04	73		010-013	WALLACE	73 E L1
RAPPOLD	65	MARGARET	0	25	73		012-369	MORRISTON	73 G L1
KAPSEY	35	FANNIE	7	31	73		008-124	LONDON T	73 E L1
RAPSON	03	REUBEN	1	02	73		004-754	BRANTFORD	73 A C1
RATCLIFF	40	DANIEL	0	11	73		206-767	COLUMBUS	74 A C1
RATCLIFF	40	MARGARET	9	22	73		008-860	E WHITBY T	73 E L1
RATE	35	WILLIAM	8	12	73		008-264	ADELAIDE	73 A C1
RATH	24	LIZZIE	2	05	73		005-980	HARPURHEY	73 E L1
RATHWELL	06	BENJAMIN	1	29	73		004-122	OTTAWA	73 A C1
RATHWELL	17	ELIZABETH	2	11	73		007-039	MENRICKVIL	73 E L1
RATHWELL	60	GEORGE	0	17	73		210-151	ELDON T	74 A C1
RATHWELL	30	JANE	9	02	73		006-968	LANARK T	73 E L1
RATHWELL	30	SAMUEL	6	03	73		006-974	RAMSAY T	73 A C1
RATHWELL	06	SARAH	6	19	73		004-135	OTTAWA	73 E L1
RATTENBURY	24	CHARLOTTE	3	19	73		005-905	VARNA	73 E L1
RATTRAY	65	THOMAS	4	22	73		012-527	GUELPH	73 C C1
RATTRAY	32	THOMAS	9	17	73		007-529	NEWBURGH	73 A C1
RATZ	44	CONRAD	4	15	73		010-244	ELLICE T	73 A C1
PAU	04	JOSEPH	5	27	73		004-662	FORMOSA	73 A C1

Death index page

VITAL STATISTICS INDEX											
LINE	NAME	CON.	PLACE OF EVENT CROSS INDEX	C.D. C.I.	S.C.	DATE			REGISTRATION NO.	REG. YEAR	CODES
						MO.	DAY	YR.			
1	PEACH FRANCIS HAROLD	M91	ERIN TWP	65		09	23	92	018563	92	CONTROL
2	PEACH MURIEL	F91	MEAFORD TWP	18		01	28	92	005659	92	1. BIRTH
3	PEACHY EUGENE	M91	OTTAWA	6		09	30	92	002542	92	2. STILLBORN
4	PEACOCK AGNES	F91	LANARK TWP	30		01	01	92	009040	92	3. MARRIAGE
5	PEACOCK ALBERT	M91	LINDSAY	60		09	18	92	017502	92	4. DEATH
6	PEACOCK ALICE ELIZABETH	F91	TORONTO	72		06	09	92	022460	92	5. ADOPTION
7	PEACOCK ARTHUR	M91	HAMILTON	67		02	28	92	019535	92	6. ADOPTION
8	PEACOCK CHARLES RYRIE	M91	KINCARDINE	4		02	07	92	002221	92	7. ADOPTION
9	PEACOCK ETHEL EMMA	F91	TORONTO	72		11	24	92	023945	92	8. DEATH
10	PEACOCK GABRIEL	M91	LANARK TWP	30		01	06	92	009041	92	9. ADOPTION
11	PEACOCK MATILDA	F91	GALWAY TWP	45		01	28	92	024250	92	10. ADOPTION
12	PEACOCK REBECCA	F91	TORONTO	72		01	07	92	020730	92	11. ADOPTION
13	PEACOCK REBECCA	F91	ETOBICOKE TWP	70		01	01	92	020194	92	12. ADOPTION
14	PEACOCK THOMAS	M91	ST THOMAS	12		10	31	92	004145	93	13. ADOPTION
15	PEARIR MAGGIE TERESSY	F91	IN GRIMSBY TWP	33		09	07	92	009876	92	14. ADOPTION
16	PEAKER MARTHA	F91	TILBURY CENTRE	27		03	31	92	007898	92	15. ADOPTION
17	PEARCE CHRISTINE	F91	STAMFORD TWP	63		04	09	92	018247	92	16. ADOPTION
18	PEARCE ELIZABETH B	F91	PUSLINCH TWP	65		07	01	92	018948	92	17. ADOPTION
19	PEARCE EMMA	M91	TORONTO	72		10	20	92	023647	92	18. ADOPTION
20	PEARCE ERNEST	M91	TORONTO	72		04	12	92	021902	92	19. ADOPTION
21	PEARCE FRANCIS	M91	HAMILTON	67		10	09	92	019903	92	20. ADOPTION
22	PEARCE FRANCIS	M91	HAMILTON	67		10	09	92	018838	93	21. ADOPTION
23	PEARCE JOHN	M91	SCARBOROUGH TWP	70		11	19	92	020293	92	22. ADOPTION
24	PEARCE M ELLEN	F91	LONDON TWP	35		05	03	92	010691	92	23. ADOPTION
25	PEARCE MAGGIE AGNES	F91	COLLINGWOOD	51		09	17	92	016116	92	24. ADOPTION
26	PEARCE SOPHIA MAUD	F91	HAMILTON	67		08	25	92	019815	92	25. ADOPTION
27	PEARREN MATTHEW	M91	MORRIS TWP	24		06	00	92	007629	92	26. ADOPTION
28	PEARNE MABEL	F91	BLANSHARD TWP	44		02	26	92	014378	92	27. ADOPTION
29	PEARSE JAMES W	M91	COBBOURG	39		06	03	92	012325	92	28. ADOPTION
30	PEARSON ALFRED	M91	TORONTO	72		01	05	92	021144	92	29. ADOPTION
31	PEARSON ANDREW	M91	NORWICH	41		02	18	92	013617	92	30. ADOPTION
32	PEARSON EDNA ROSELLA	F91	LONDON	35		08	16	92	011061	92	31. ADOPTION
33	PEARSON FLORENCE B	F91	IN MONAGHAN TWP	45		08	03	92	014612	92	32. ADOPTION
34	PEARSON HARRIET	F91	CLINTON	24		12	21	92	007135	92	33. ADOPTION
35	PEARSON JOHN	M91	HAMILTON	67		11	14	92	019941	92	34. ADOPTION
36	PEARSON JOHN ALEX S	M91	STANLEY TWP	24		05	30	92	007102	92	35. ADOPTION
37	PEARSON JOHN EDWARD	M91	TORONTO	72		01	27	92	021038	92	36. ADOPTION
38	PEARSON JOHN F	M91	TORONTO*	72		11	28	92	023989	92	37. ADOPTION
39	PEARSON JOHN WILLIAM	M91	E GWILLIMSBURY T	70		06	30	92	020003	92	38. ADOPTION
40	PEARSON LEONARD PERCIVAL	M91	LOGAN TWP	44		08	28	92	014012	92	39. ADOPTION
41	PEARSON SARAH ELIZABETH	F91	SMITH TWP	45		09	07	92	014799	92	40. ADOPTION
42	PEARSON SELINA	F91	TORONTO	72		04	09	92	021855	92	41. ADOPTION
43	PEARSON VICTORIA	F91	TORONTO	72		08	15	92	023055	92	42. ADOPTION
44	PEASE CHARLES J	M91	TORONTO	72		02	11	92	021495	92	43. ADOPTION
45	PEAT FREDERICK WILLIAM	M91	UNORGANIZED TWP	36		05	28	92	011519	92	44. ADOPTION
46	PEAT WILLIAM	M91	ST THOMAS	12		09	01	92	004069	92	45. ADOPTION
47	PEDDEN JOSEPH	M91	ADELAIDE TWP	35		09	07	92	010511	92	46. ADOPTION
48	PEDDIE JAMES	M91	UXBRIDGE TWP	40		03	15	92	012788	92	47. ADOPTION
49	PEDDLER WILLIAM JOHN	M91	ENNISKILLEN TWP	29		08	23	92	008540	92	48. ADOPTION
50	PEDLER JONATHAN	M91	ENNISKILLEN TWP	29		10	03	92	008541	92	49. ADOPTION
51	PEDLEY HENRY HORACE	M91	ESSA TWP	51		03	15	92	016186	92	50. ADOPTION
52	PEDLEY HENRY HORACE	M91	ESSA TWP	51		05	15	92	016187	92	51. ADOPTION
53	PEDLOW ETHEL	F91	DEREHAM TWP	41		02	11	92	013640	92	52. ADOPTION
54	PEDLOW ETHEL	F91	DEREHAM TWP	41		03	11	92	013649	92	53. ADOPTION
55	PEDRICK WILLIAM	M91	IN GOSFIELD TWP	13		03	14	92	004437	92	54. ADOPTION
56	PEEBLES ALEXANDER	M91	PETERBOROUGH	45		02	20	92	014430	92	55. ADOPTION
57	PEEBLES JAMES HOOD	M91	DUNDAS	67		02	22	92	019106	92	56. ADOPTION
58	PEEL EDWARD WILLIAM	M91	MANVERS TWP	11		02	21	92	012078	92	57. ADOPTION
59	PEEL JOHN	M91	CARTWRIGHT TWP	11		02	12	92	011951	92	58. ADOPTION
60	PEEL M ANN	F91	MANVERS TWP	11		03	07	92	012083	92	59. ADOPTION